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REVIEW OF APPLIED URBAN RESEARCH



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LOCAL ECONOMIC INDICATORS, SECOND QUARTER, 1976

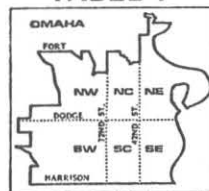
OMAHA'S ECONOMY EXPANDS STEADILY

The first half of 1976 was a period of steady economic growth in Omaha. Among the strongest indicators of economic advancement are those in construction activity. The number of single-family building permits increased from 385 units during the first quarter of 1976 to 453 units during the second quarter of 1976. Multi-family permits were up over both the first quarter of 1976 and the second quarter of 1975. The total number of non-residential permits increased from 151 units valued at 7.9 million dollars during the first quarter of 1976 to 247 units valued at 10.4 million dollars during the second quarter of 1976. The total number and value of mortgages also continued to rise. As in the past, mortgage lending was greatest in western subareas of Omaha.

Most other economic activity monitored continued to show improvement. New automobile registrations increased by 971 over the first quarter of 1976 and by 1,130 over the second quarter of one year ago. Gains were also recorded in new truck registrations. Mechanic's liens declined from the previous quarter as well as from the same quarter one year ago. However, both bankruptcy cases and unemployment insurance claimants increased slightly over the previous quarter although they declined significantly from the second quarter of 1975. Data showing change in indicators monitored by the Center for six subareas of Omaha are presented in Table 1.

Omaha Intra-Urban Demographic & Economic Indicators¹

TABLE 1



Second
Quarter
1976

Item	Subarea						Total
	Northeast	Southeast	Northcentral	Southcentral	Northwest	Southwest	
Population Change							
Births, 1st Quarter, 1976	267	249	267	126	209	302	1,420
Deaths, 1st Quarter, 1976	208	234	165	90	60	73	830
Net Natural Increase: 1st Quarter, 1976	59	15	102	36	149	229	590
1st Quarter, 1975	65	18	107	28	76	174	432
Change: 1st Quarter, 1976—1st Quarter, 1975	- 6	+ 33	- 5	+ 8	+ 73	+ 55	+ 158
New Householders							
From Same Subarea, 2nd Quarter, 1976	84	74	41	14	21	46	280
From Other Subarea, 2nd Quarter, 1976	44	41	67	41	55	61	309
New Arrivals, 2nd Quarter, 1976	111	144	115	54	67	224	715
From Address Unknown, 2nd Quarter, 1976	102	108	89	33	31	47	410
Total New Householders: 1st Quarter, 1976	442	388	380	111	207	404	1,932
2nd Quarter, 1976	341	367	312	142	174	378	1,714
2nd Quarter, 1975	896	946	767	346	457	870	4,282
Change: 2nd Quarter, 1976—1st Quarter, 1976	- 101	- 21	- 68	+ 31	- 33	- 26	- 218
2nd Quarter, 1976—2nd Quarter, 1975	- 555	- 579	- 455	- 204	- 283	- 492	- 2,568
Construction Activity							
Single-Family Building Permits							
1st Quarter, 1976	0	2	11	9	87	276	385
2nd Quarter, 1976	7	10	14	23	99	300	453
2nd Quarter, 1975	3	7	16	17	107	311	461
Change: 2nd Quarter, 1976—1st Quarter, 1976	+ 7	+ 8	+ 3	+ 14	+ 12	+ 24	+ 68
2nd Quarter, 1976—2nd Quarter, 1975	+ 4	+ 3	- 2	+ 6	- 8	- 11	- 8

Item	Subarea						Total
	Northeast	Northwest	Northcentral	Southcentral	Northwest	Southwest	
Total Value of Single-Family Building Permits							
1st Quarter, 1976 (\$1,000)	0	22.4	194.4	101.1	930.8	3,323.3	4,572.0
2nd Quarter, 1976 (\$1,000)	110.4	98.1	179.0	273.6	1,078.4	3,511.0	5,200.5
2nd Quarter, 1975 (\$1,000)	34.9	58.3	246.1	180.5	1,203.0	3,757.8	5,480.6
Change: 2nd Quarter, 1976—1st Quarter, 1976	+ 110.4	+ 75.7	- 15.4	+ 122.5	+ 147.6	+ 187.7	+ 628.5
2nd Quarter, 1976—2nd Quarter, 1975	+ 75.5	+ 39.8	- 67.1	+ 43.1	- 124.6	- 246.8	- 280.1
Single-Family Demolition Permit							
1st Quarter, 1976	28	21	5	3	0	0	57
2nd Quarter, 1976	66	18	3	0	5	1	93
2nd Quarter, 1975	70	16	4	2	2	8	102
Change: 2nd Quarter, 1976—1st Quarter, 1976	+ 38	- 3	- 2	- 3	+ 5	+ 1	+ 36
2nd Quarter, 1976—2nd Quarter, 1975	- 4	+ 2	- 1	- 2	+ 3	- 7	- 9
Net Change in Single-Family Housing Units (Building Permits—Demolition Permits)							
1st Quarter, 1976	- 28	19	+ 6	+ 6	+ 87	+ 276	+ 328
2nd Quarter, 1976	- 59	- 8	+ 11	+ 23	+ 94	+ 299	+ 360
Multi-Family Building Permits (Units)							
1st Quarter, 1976	0	0	0	10	2	6	18
2nd Quarter, 1976	0	2	4	0	2	12	20
2nd Quarter, 1975	0	0	2	0	6	4	12
Change: 2nd Quarter, 1976—1st Quarter, 1976	0	+ 2	+ 4	- 10	0	+ 6	+ 2
2nd Quarter, 1976—2nd Quarter, 1975	0	+ 2	+ 2	0	- 4	+ 8	+ 8
Total Value of Multi-Family Building Permits							
1st Quarter, 1976 (\$1,000)	0	0	0	43.0	23.8	97.2	164.0
2nd Quarter, 1976 (\$1,000)	0	17.2	43.1	0	25.6	165.3	251.2
2nd Quarter, 1975 (\$1,000)	0	0	22.7	0	51.6	26.8	101.1
Change: 2nd Quarter, 1976—1st Quarter, 1976	0	+ 17.2	+ 43.1	- 43.0	+ 1.8	+ 68.1	+ 87.2
2nd Quarter, 1976—2nd Quarter, 1975	0	+ 17.2	+ 20.4	0	- 26.0	+ 138.5	+ 150.1
Multi-Family Demolition Permits (Units)							
1st Quarter, 1976	16	2	0	0	0	0	18
2nd Quarter, 1976	10	12	0	0	0	0	22
2nd Quarter, 1975	25	8	0	0	0	0	33
Change: 2nd Quarter, 1976—1st Quarter, 1976	- 6	+ 10	0	0	0	0	+ 4
2nd Quarter, 1976—2nd Quarter, 1975	- 15	+ 4	0	0	0	0	- 11
Net Change in Multi-Family Housing Units (Building Permits—Demolition Permits)							
1st Quarter, 1976	- 16	- 2	0	+ 10	+ 2	+ 6	0
2nd Quarter, 1976	- 10	- 10	4	0	+ 2	+ 12	- 2
Residential Improvement Permits							
1st Quarter, 1976	80	108	95	70	89	162	604
2nd Quarter, 1976	169	202	236	149	201	351	1,308
2nd Quarter, 1975	125	187	534	167	152	585	1,750
Change: 2nd Quarter, 1976—1st Quarter, 1976	+ 89	+ 94	+ 141	+ 79	+ 112	+ 189	+ 704
2nd Quarter, 1976—2nd Quarter, 1975	+ 44	+ 15	- 298	- 18	+ 49	- 234	- 442
Total Value of Residential Improvement Permits							
1st Quarter, 1976 (\$1,000)	138.4	184.9	144.7	92.8	161.9	788.8	1,511.5
2nd Quarter, 1976 (\$1,000)	164.9	196.6	216.1	196.9	183.3	344.2	1,302.0
2nd Quarter, 1975 (\$1,000)	97.8	211.2	2,213.3	222.0	488.6	3,980.1	7,213.0
Change: 2nd Quarter, 1976—1st Quarter, 1976	+ 26.5	+ 11.7	+ 71.4	+ 104.1	+ 21.4	- 444.6	- 209.5
2nd Quarter, 1976—2nd Quarter, 1975	+ 67.1	- 14.6	- 1,997.2	- 25.1	- 305.3	- 3,635.9	- 5,911.0
Nonresidential Building Permits							
1st Quarter, 1976	15	39	11	19	13	54	151
2nd Quarter, 1976	36	43	28	27	43	70	247
2nd Quarter, 1975	11	24	18	12	28	59	152
Change: 2nd Quarter, 1976—1st Quarter, 1976	+ 21	+ 4	+ 17	+ 8	+ 30	+ 16	+ 96
2nd Quarter, 1976—2nd Quarter, 1975	+ 25	+ 19	+ 10	+ 15	+ 15	+ 11	+ 95
Total Value of Nonresidential Building Permits							
1st Quarter, 1976 (\$1,000)	626.1	3,143.8	444.8	817.0	214.5	2,675.1	7,921.3
2nd Quarter, 1976 (\$1,000)	706.3	1,585.0	3,090.2	909.5	1,570.1	2,515.7	10,376.8
2nd Quarter, 1975 (\$1,000)	712.8	1,473.6	1,373.4	763.4	691.0	3,667.4	8,681.6
Change: 2nd Quarter, 1976—1st Quarter, 1976	+ 80.2	- 1,558.8	+ 2,645.4	+ 92.5	+ 1,355.6	- 159.4	+ 2,455.5
2nd Quarter, 1976—2nd Quarter, 1975	- 6.5	+ 111.4	+ 1,716.8	+ 146.1	+ 879.1	- 1,151.7	+ 1,695.2
Non-Housing Demolition Permits							
1st Quarter, 1976	24	21	6	3	4	3	61
2nd Quarter, 1976	48	17	2	7	1	4	79
2nd Quarter, 1975	33	33	6	2	2	5	81
Change: 2nd Quarter, 1976—1st Quarter, 1976	+ 24	- 4	- 4	+ 4	- 3	+ 1	+ 18
2nd Quarter, 1976—2nd Quarter, 1975	+ 15	- 16	- 4	+ 5	- 1	- 1	- 2
Mortgages²							
Number of Mortgages							
1st Quarter, 1976	197	194	291	150	307	928	2,067
2nd Quarter, 1976	268	303	496	239	435	1,158	2,899
2nd Quarter, 1975	161	200	345	183	390	932	2,211
Change: 2nd Quarter, 1976—1st Quarter, 1976	+ 71	+ 109	+ 205	+ 89	+ 128	+ 230	+ 832
2nd Quarter, 1976—2nd Quarter, 1975	+ 107	+ 103	+ 151	+ 56	+ 45	+ 226	+ 688
Dollar Amount of Mortgages							
1st Quarter, 1976 (\$1,000)	4,199.5	11,666.2	5,882.2	4,882.7	15,355.2	32,734.5	74,720.3
2nd Quarter, 1976 (\$1,000)	4,898.3	9,475.1	16,967.2	9,461.8	17,536.0	47,563.0	105,901.4
2nd Quarter, 1975 (\$1,000)	9,192.3	20,112.5	11,072.8	6,333.7	13,195.2	50,628.1	110,534.6
Change: 2nd Quarter, 1976—1st Quarter, 1976	+ 698.8	- 2,191.1	+ 11,085.0	+ 4,579.1	+ 2,180.8	+ 14,828.5	+ 31,181.1
2nd Quarter, 1976—2nd Quarter, 1975	- 4,294.0	- 10,637.4	+ 5,894.4	+ 3,128.1	+ 4,340.8	- 3,065.1	- 4,633.2
New Auto Registrations							
Number of New Cars							
1st Quarter, 1976	316	402	409	332	538	990	2,987
2nd Quarter, 1976	419	538	590	479	727	1,205	3,958
2nd Quarter, 1975	281	409	452	324	498	864	2,828
Change: 2nd Quarter, 1976—1st Quarter, 1976	+ 103	+ 136	+ 181	+ 147	+ 189	+ 215	+ 971
2nd Quarter, 1976—2nd Quarter, 1975	+ 138	+ 129	+ 138	+ 155	+ 229	+ 341	+ 1,130

Item	Subarea						Total
	Northeast	Southeast	Northcentral	Southcentral	Northwest	Southwest	
Number of New Trucks							
1st Quarter, 1976	74	114	82	83	103	130	586
2nd Quarter, 1976	81	118	96	97	103	154	649
2nd Quarter, 1975	52	82	61	54	77	137	463
Change: 2nd Quarter, 1976—1st Quarter, 1976	+ 7	+ 4	+ 14	+ 14	0	+ 24	+ 63
2nd Quarter, 1976—2nd Quarter, 1975	+ 29	+ 36	+ 35	+ 43	+ 26	+ 17	+ 186
Bankruptcy Cases							
1st Quarter, 1976	35	20	30	9	22	22	138
2nd Quarter, 1976	52	34	19	11	17	17	150
2nd Quarter, 1975	53	50	40	17	20	34	214
Change: 2nd Quarter, 1976—1st Quarter, 1976	+ 17	+ 14	- 11	+ 2	- 5	- 5	+ 12
2nd Quarter, 1976—2nd Quarter, 1975	- 1	- 16	- 21	- 6	- 3	- 17	- 64
Mechanic Liens³							
Number of Mechanic Liens							
1st Quarter, 1976	27	17	25	1	23	27	120
2nd Quarter, 1976	15	14	13	7	19	17	85
2nd Quarter, 1975	22	17	15	9	10	23	96
Change: 2nd Quarter, 1976—1st Quarter, 1976	- 12	- 3	- 12	+ 6	- 4	- 10	- 35
2nd Quarter, 1976—2nd Quarter, 1975	- 7	- 3	- 2	- 2	+ 9	- 6	- 11
Dollar Amount of Mechanic Liens							
1st Quarter, 1976 (\$1,000)	57.9	27.4	53.4	0.2	59.0	93.7	291.6
2nd Quarter, 1976 (\$1,000)	21.1	48.6	15.3	15.5	21.8	103.4	225.7
2nd Quarter, 1975 (\$1,000)	59.1	50.6	25.8	25.0	44.9	159.9	365.3
Change: 2nd Quarter, 1976—1st Quarter, 1976	- 36.8	+ 21.2	- 38.1	+ 15.3	- 37.2	+ 9.7	- 65.9
2nd Quarter, 1976—2nd Quarter, 1975	- 38.0	- 2.0	- 10.5	- 9.5	- 23.1	- 56.5	- 139.6
Unemployment Insurance Claimants							
Total Number of Claimants							
4th Quarter, 1975	1,089	772	546	283	441	445	3,576
1st Quarter, 1976	1,331	1,045	606	373	537	614	4,506
1st Quarter, 1975	1,864	1,312	768	461	602	690	5,697
Change: 1st Quarter, 1976—4th Quarter, 1975	+ 242	+ 273	+ 60	+ 90	+ 96	+ 169	+ 930
1st Quarter, 1976—1st Quarter, 1975	- 533	- 267	- 162	- 88	- 65	- 76	- 1,191
U. S. Postal Service							
Number of Families Served							
1st Quarter, 1976	37,241	30,228	21,253	12,086	21,887	23,563	146,258
2nd Quarter, 1976	37,137	29,105	21,191	12,114	21,930	23,783	145,260
2nd Quarter, 1975	37,156	29,989	21,215	12,164	21,158	23,395	145,077
Change: 2nd Quarter, 1976—1st Quarter, 1976	- 104	- 1,123	- 62	+ 28	+ 43	+ 220	- 998
2nd Quarter, 1976—2nd Quarter, 1975	- 19	- 884	- 24	- 50	+ 772	+ 388	+ 183
Number of Businesses Served							
1st Quarter, 1976	5,572	1,794	896	756	1,697	1,935	12,650
2nd Quarter, 1976	4,932	1,882	805	755	1,638	1,971	11,983
2nd Quarter, 1975	5,658	1,797	868	696	1,631	1,614	12,264
Change: 2nd Quarter, 1976—1st Quarter, 1976	- 640	+ 88	- 91	- 1	- 59	+ 36	- 667
2nd Quarter, 1976—2nd Quarter, 1975	- 726	+ 85	- 63	+ 59	+ 7	+ 357	- 281
Public Utilities							
Number of Water Hookups							
1st Quarter, 1976	10	21	15	12	105	219	382
2nd Quarter, 1976	16	51	32	18	88	353	558
2nd Quarter, 1975	40	14	12	30	94	247	437
Change: 2nd Quarter, 1976—1st Quarter, 1976	+ 6	+ 30	+ 17	+ 6	- 17	+ 134	+ 176
2nd Quarter, 1976—2nd Quarter, 1975	- 24	+ 37	+ 20	- 12	- 6	+ 106	+ 121

¹ This work in part was financed by a grant from the Economic Development Council of the Omaha Chamber of Commerce. The data were compiled by CAUR (Dr. Paul S.T. Lee, Robert Henningsen, Billy R. Brizendine and Carmen L. Umsted) from data in the *Daily Record* and data made available by (1) Douglas County Health Department, Division of Vital Statistics, (2) City of Omaha, Office of Permits and Inspections, and (3) Nebraska's Department of Labor, Division of Employment.

² Totals do not include 268 mortgages (\$10,824,879) for the second quarter 1976, 168 mortgages (\$7,925,484) for the first quarter 1976 and 155 mortgages (\$6,078,847) for the second quarter 1975 not classifiable by subareas.

³ Totals do not include 11 mechanic liens (\$133,846) for the second quarter 1976, 6 mechanic liens (\$17,917) for the first quarter 1976 and 11 mechanic liens (\$21,663) for the second quarter 1975 not classifiable by subareas.

ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY PUBLIC EDUCATION A DECLINING ENTERPRISE?*

BY
R. H. TODD

The 1976-77 operating budget of \$78.9 million for the Omaha Public Schools represents an increase of \$7.4 million from 1975-76. The current budget for the Westside Community Schools is \$12.2 million, up \$1.1 million from the past school year. This article attempts to provide a framework within which voters and public officials can examine the current operating budgets of Omaha Public and Westside Community Schools and more appropriately consider their implications. Many decisions, because of the complexity and the urgency of the problems with which they deal, are subject to varying degrees of public misunderstanding. This is particularly true of decisions affecting education, where many of the end products are intangibles and where traditions are deeply ingrained.

The key question that arises in public school decision making is how much elementary and secondary education should

*This report was presented to the Omaha School Board July 28 at their public hearing on the proposed 1976-77 operating budget.

be made available or in other words, what should the public school budget be?

Some known factors:

1) During the last ten years the financial plight of urban schools has received considerable public attention as both costs and expenditures for public education have risen sharply.

2) The age distribution of the population has changed markedly and the school age population has declined. There will be annual reductions in elementary school enrollments for the remainder of the decade--reflecting the decrease in the population aged 5 through 13. We can expect a tapering off in enrollment at the high school level to

The Public School System, 1966 to 1971

The historical picture of elementary and secondary public education from 1966-1971 was one of expansion in the number of students, teachers and total school personnel (see Tables 1 and 2). For the United States as a whole, enrollments increased by 3 million students from 1966 to 1971. Enrollments in the two largest school districts in Omaha increased by six percent (3,664 students) in Omaha Public Schools and by four percent (371 students) in Westside Community Schools. During the same period 274,000 additional teachers were hired by elementary and secondary public schools in the United States, a 15.3 percent gain. Locally, 406 teachers (a 19 percent gain) were added to the Omaha Public School system and 39 teachers (a 9.0 percent gain) to the Westside system from 1966 to 1971. The increase in teaching personnel was not as great as the gain in nonteaching personnel. Nonteaching personnel increased by 526 in the Omaha Public Schools during the five year period, up 46 percent during that time. The increase was 105 nonteaching personnel in District 66, up 49 percent.¹

	1966-67 to 1971-72				1971-72 to 1975-76			
	Enrollments ^{a/} Increase/ Decrease	Percent Change	Teachers Increase/ Decrease	Percent Change	Enrollments ^{a/} Increase/ Decrease	Percent Change	Teachers Increase/ Decrease	Percent Change
United States	+3,041,000	+7.1	+274,000	+15.3	-1,380,000	-3.0	+105,000	+5.1
Omaha Public Schools	+3,664	+6.1	+406	+19.0	-9,332	-14.6	+368.1	+14.5
Westside Schools	+371	+3.9	+39	+9.0	-1,098	-11.2	+29	+6.1

^{a/}Elementary and secondary.
Source: Computed from Tables 3 and 4.

The Public School System, 1971 to 1976

During the last five years, 1971 to 1976, we have witnessed a reversal in enrollment trends (see Tables 1 and 2). The historical picture of elementary and secondary education between 1971 and 1976 is one of rapidly declining enrollments but of continued rapid expansion in teachers and total school personnel. For the United States, enrollments declined 1.4 million or 3.0 percent during the period 1971 to 1976. Locally, Omaha Public Schools lost more than 9,000 students for a decline of nearly 15 percent in enrollment (see Table 3). Westside Community Schools (District 66) had 1,000 fewer students enrolled in 1976 than in 1971, an 11.2 percent decline in five years (see Table 4).

	Enrollment (000's)				Teachers (000's)		
	Elementary	Secondary	Total		Elementary	Secondary	Total
1966-67	31,145	11,894	43,039	+3,041 +7.1%	1,006	783	1,789
1967-68	31,641	12,250	43,891		1,040	815	1,855
1968-69	32,226	12,781	44,944		1,076	860	1,936
1969-70	32,597	13,022	45,619		1,108	906	2,014
1970-71	32,577	13,332	45,909		1,128	927	2,055
1971-72	32,265	13,816	46,080	-1,380 -3.0%	1,111	952	2,063
1972-73	31,831	13,913	45,744		1,140	963	2,103
1973-74	31,353	14,077	45,480		1,152	986	2,138
1974-75	30,919	14,137	45,056		1,161	998	2,159
1975-76	30,400	14,300	44,700		1,153	1,015	2,168

Source: Projections of Educational Statistics to 1984-85, USHEW, National Center for Educational Statistics.

Teachers		Total Personnel	Enrollment	Budget
1966-67	2,136	3,277.5	60,267	\$24,857,618
1967-68	2,225	3,443.6	61,397	27,628,804
1968-69	2,325	3,660.5	61,528	32,381,159
1969-70	2,398	3,800.42	61,926	37,364,541
1970-71	2,487	3,974.96	63,514	41,919,227
1971-72	2,542	4,209.2	63,931	47,707,878
1972-73	2,606.3	4,615.3	63,125	51,287,806
1973-74	2,736.4	5,175.4	60,502	54,595,295
1974-75	2,716.9	5,273.6	59,089	62,210,425
1975-76	2,829.0	5,538.5	57,823	71,520,479
1976-77	2,910.1		54,329	76,903,160

^{a/}All teachers and enrollment data except 1976-77 projections were obtained from the appropriate volumes of *Statistics and Facts about Nebraska Schools*, published annually by the State Department of Education. Projections are by the Research Division, Omaha Public Schools as contained in Research Report 219. The first enrollment projections are Minimally Adjusted Ratios and take into account monthly enrollment deviations which were greater than expected, based upon a three year average. The second projections are Maximally Adjusted Ratios and take into account the same factors as well as the possibility of declines continuing through the summer months. Total personnel are based on June counts from 1966 to 1973, as reported in the respective Omaha Public Schools *Statistical School Year Report*. For example, there were 3,277.5 personnel as of June 1966 and 4,615.3 as of June 1972. From 1973 to 1975 data are from *Statistical and Financial Facts*, based on November counts. For example, there were 5,175.4 total personnel as of November 1973 and 5,538.5 as of November 1975.

¹Nonteaching personnel is defined as the difference between teachers and total personnel as shown in Tables 3 and 4.

Teachers ^{a/}		Total Personnel ^{b/}	Enrollment ^{b/}	Operating Budget ^{b/}
1966-67	433	648	9,415	\$4,522,076
1967-68	465	670	9,617	5,115,442
1968-69	471	687	9,759	NA
1969-70	478	713	9,909	6,511,444
1970-71	466	754	10,008	7,260,387
1971-72	472	792	9,786	8,187,206
1972-73	481.7	815	9,721	8,921,821
1973-74	473.5	824	9,445	9,622,604
1974-75	492.0	869	9,065	11,048,778
1975-76	501.0	885	8,688	12,150,139

^{a/}From Nebraska State Office of Education.
^{b/}Statistical Data from School District.

As enrollments were declining by 1.4 million in the United States, an additional 105,000 teachers were employed (see Table 2). This represented a five percent increase in teaching personnel. What has occurred at the local level has been much more dramatic, as shown in Tables 3 and 4. In Omaha Public Schools, 368 additional teachers were employed (a 14.5 percent increase) during a period in which enrollments declined by nearly 10,000 students. In the Westside School District, 29 additional teachers were hired while enrollments declined by over 1,000.

The contrast between decreasing enrollment and increasing personnel are shown in Figures 1 and 2. These statistics are reflected in the changing pupil teacher ratios, which declined between 1966 and 1976 from 28 to less than 19 students per teacher in Omaha Public Schools and from 22 to 17 students per teacher in Westside Community Schools (see Table 5).

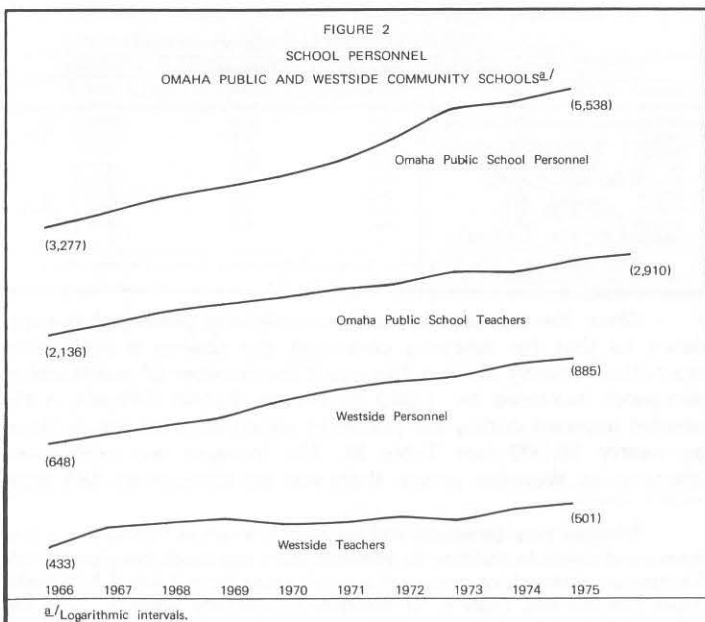
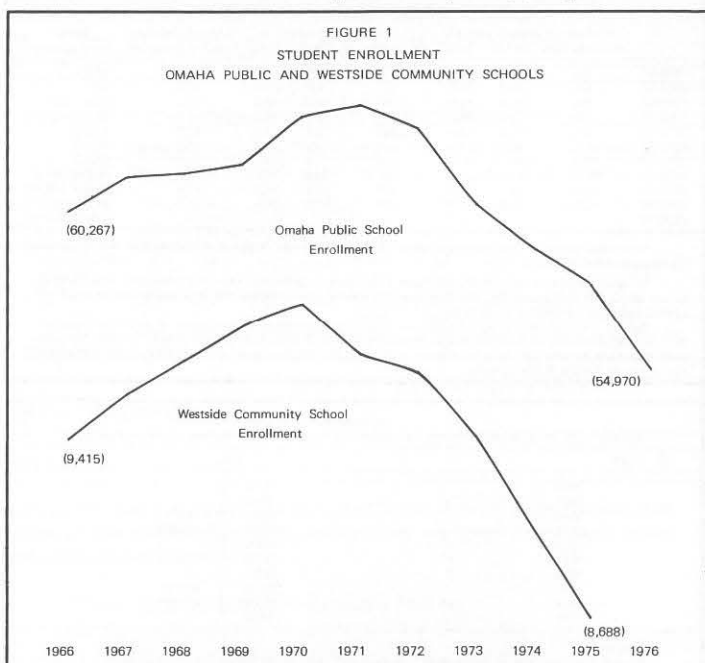


TABLE 5 TEACHER-PUPIL AND TOTAL PERSONNEL-PUPIL RATIOS				
	Teacher-Pupil Ratio		Total Personnel-Pupil Ratio	
	Westside	Omaha	Westside	Omaha
1966-67	21.7	28.2	14.5	18.4
1967-68	20.7	27.6	14.4	17.5
1968-69	20.7	26.5	14.2	16.8
1969-70	20.7	25.8	13.9	16.3
1970-71	21.5	25.5	13.3	16.0
1971-72	20.7	25.1	12.4	15.2
1972-73	20.2	24.2	11.9	13.7
1973-74	19.9	22.1	11.5	11.7
1974-75	18.4	21.7	10.4	11.2
1975-76	17.3	20.4	9.8	10.4
		18.8 ^a		
^a /Estimate from projected enrollments. Source: Computed from Tables 3 and 4.				

Although there was an increase in the number of teachers during a time period of enrollment decline, the contrast is sharper when enrollment data is compared to change in administrative and supervisory personnel (Table 7). Data from Omaha Public Schools show there was an increase of 50 administrators and supervisory personnel from 1966 to 1971, while enrollments increased by more than 3,000. However, during the last five years, 1971 to 1976, enrollments have declined by nearly 10,000 while 102.5 administrators and supervisory personnel were added to the payroll. Similarly, the number of principals and assistant principals in the Omaha Public School District has continued to increase (see Table 8).

TABLE 6 OMAHA PUBLIC SCHOOLS ADMINISTRATION									
	Educational Administration ^a / Administration Clerical			Business Administration			Office of Secretary Board of Education		Total Administration ^b
	Total			Administration	Clerical	Total			
1966-67	6.0	10.0	16.0	2.0	9.0	11.0	9.0	58.5 ^a	
1967-68	8.0	10.0	18.0	2.0	9.0	11.0	10.0	63.0	
1968-69	6.5	10.0	16.5	3.0	9.0	12.0	11.0	69.5	+21
1969-70	7.5	13.0	20.5	3.0	9.0	12.0	12.0	69.0	+35.9%
1970-71	8.0	15.0	23.0	3.0	9.0	12.0	12.0	71.0	
1971-72	10.0	18.0	28.0	3.5	9.0	12.5	13.0	79.5	
1972-73	10.0	20.0	30.0	4.0	9.0	13.0	13.0	83.5	+11.5
1973-74	10.0	20.0	30.0	3.5	13.5	17.0	14.0	85.0	+14.5%
1974-75	14.5	19.0	33.5	3.5	12.5	16.0	17.5	94.5	
1975-76	12.5	18.5	31.0	3.0	11.5	14.5	17.5	91.0	
1976-77	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	--	
^a /Includes Personnel Administration since 1967-68. Previously Personnel Administration was counted as Educational Administration. ^b /Total administration includes additional administrative personnel, i.e., school treasurer, legal services, census office and data processing. These categories comprise approximately the same percentage of total administration in 1966-67 as in 1975-76. Source: Prior to the 1970-71 budget year the budgeted number of administrative personnel obtained from <i>Annual Estimates of Receipts and Expenditures</i> , Board of Education Omaha Public Schools. The above cited document discontinued such breakdown after 1969-70. The data since was provided by the administration office of Omaha Public Schools.									

TABLE 7 OMAHA PUBLIC SCHOOLS TOTAL ADMINISTRATIVE AND SUPERVISORY PERSONNEL ^{a/}		
Total		
1966	147.5	} +50
1967	149.5	
1968	155.1	
1969	170.0	} +33.9%
1970	185.5	
1971	197.5	
1972	223.0	} +102.5
1973	223.5	
1974	275.0	
1975	300.0	} +51.9%
^{a/} June data. Source: <i>Statistical School Year Report</i> , Omaha Public Schools, for the respective school years.		

TABLE 8 OMAHA PUBLIC SCHOOLS PRINCIPALS AND ASSISTANT PRINCIPALS				
	Senior High	Junior High	Elementary	Total
1966-67	18.33	19.67	60.0	98.0
1967-68	20.0	20.0	61.5	101.5
1968-69	23.5	21.0	61.0	105.5
1969-70	25.5	21.5	64.0	111.0
1970-71	25.5	23.5	66.0	115.0
1971-72	34.0	27.0	69.0	130.0
1972-73	35.0	29.5	73.5	138.0
1973-74	34.0	30.5	77.5	142.0
1974-75	34.5	31.0	79.5	145.0
1975-76	34.5	32.5	76.5	143.5
1976-77	--	--	--	--
Source: Computed from <i>Annual Estimate of Receipts and Expenditures</i> , Board of Education, Omaha Public Schools, using budgeted figures for the respective school years.				

When the increase in total nonteaching personnel is compared to that for teaching personnel the change is even more dramatic.² During the last five years the number of nonteaching personnel increased by 1,042 in Omaha Public Schools, a 63 percent increase during the period in which enrollments declined by nearly 10,000 (see Table 3). The increase was even more dramatic at Westside where there was an increase of 384 non-

²Nonteaching personnel include such workers as maintenance, bus drivers and cooks in addition to administrators and supervisory personnel. All data on nonteaching personnel are calculated from Table 3 for Omaha Public Schools and Table 4 for Westside Community Schools, using the difference between teachers and total personnel.

teaching personnel in the last five years, up 120 percent during the 1971-1976 period (see Table 4).

In money terms this has meant an increase of \$31.2 million or a 65.4 percent increase in the Omaha Public Schools budget from 1971 to 1976 and a \$4.0 million increase in the Westside operating budget, up 48.4 percent in five years (see Tables 3 and 4).³ This trend is depicted in Figure 3 and interpreted as average expenditures per pupil in the Omaha Public School District in Table 9.

The large increases in expenditures for education have not found their way to classroom teachers. Table 10, a comparison of current expenditures for salaries of teachers for the United States and for Omaha Public Schools, indicates the following: in 1966, current expenditures for salaries of Omaha teachers was 105 percent of current expenditures for salaries of teachers nationally. In 1971 salaries of Omaha Public School teachers were 97.6 percent of the United States average and by 1974-75 they were 93.6 percent of salaries of teachers nationally.

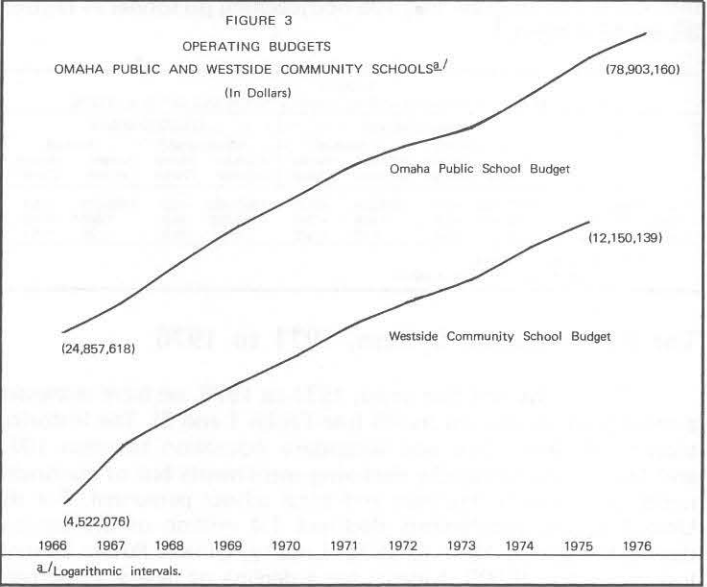


TABLE 9 U.S. AVERAGE OF CURRENT EXPENDITURE PER PUPIL IN ADA REPORTED FOR ADMINISTRATOR OF PL 81-874 AND PL 89-10: 1966-67 TO 1976-77			
FISCAL YEAR ENDING JUNE 30 OMAHA PUBLIC SCHOOLS' BUDGETED EXPENDITURES			
Current Expenditures per Pupil			
	United States	Omaha Public Schools	Omaha Percent of U.S.
1966-67	555	398	72
1967-68	612	436	71
1968-69	685	512	+53.2%
1969-70	767	585	+82.2%
1970-71	860	641	
1971-72	926	725	
1972-73	1,020	787	
1973-74	1,120	875	+56.7%
1974-75	1,250	1,018	+92.6%
1975-76	1,385	1,193	
1976-77	--	1,396	
Source: U.S. data prior to 1973 from <i>Revenues and Expenditures for Public Elementary and Secondary Education</i> . Data for 1973-75 are estimates from <i>Fall Statistics of Public Schools, Advance Reports</i> . These latter estimates include all professional educational staff excluding principals. Omaha totals compiled by CAUR using total current expenditures from <i>Annual Estimate of Receipts and Expenditures</i> (OPS) and using enrollment figures from Table 3.			

TABLE 10 CURRENT EXPENDITURE FOR SALARIES OF TEACHERS IN REGULAR PUBLIC ELEMENTARY AND SECONDARY SCHOOLS ^a / United States Omaha			
1966-67	\$ 6,825		\$ 7,151
1967-68	7,589		7,314
1968-69	7,872	+52.8%	8,050
1969-70	8,486		8,596
1970-71	9,187		9,103
1971-72	9,696		9,461
1972-73	10,183	+51.8%	9,737
1973-74	10,803	+19.5%	10,236
1974-75	11,587		10,848
1975-76	Projected		
^a /Average annual salaries of instructional staff are about four percent higher than salaries of classroom teachers. U.S. figures were adjusted from data provided in expenditures for salaries of instructional staff. Source: <i>Projection of Educational Statistics to 1984-85</i> , USHEW, National Center for Educational Statistics.			

³The real increase in expenditures has been less dramatic, but nonetheless has been very substantial during the same period of time. If one uses the Consumer Price Index as a deflator/inflator there was a 34.8 percent increase in prices from 1971-72 through the 1975-76 school year. The annual average fiscal year index was 123.3 and 166.2 respectively for the years in question. This would suggest that there were real increases of more than 30 percent in the Omaha Public School District and 15 percent in District 66.

Locally, teacher loads have dropped dramatically (reflected in lower pupil-teacher ratios) but the salary gap between teachers in Omaha and the United States average has grown. This indicates that the percentage of expenditures in public education devoted to instruction has declined more rapidly in Omaha than for the United States, as shown in Tables 11 and 12.⁴

TABLE 11 CURRENT EXPENDITURE BY CATEGORY, OMAHA PUBLIC SCHOOL DISTRICT (Millions of Dollars)						
	1964-65	Percent of Total	1971-72	Percent of Total	1976-77	Percent of Total
Total	\$20.9	100.0	\$46.4	100.0	\$76.8	100.0
Administration	.5	2.3	1.1	2.3	1.7	2.2
Instruction	16.1	77.0	33.9	73.2	50.2	65.4
Attendance, Health and Service	.4	1.7	.9	1.9	1.6	2.1
Public Transportation	.1	.02	.2	.03	3.2	4.2
Operation and Maintenance	2.9	13.8	6.3	12.2	11.4	14.7
Fixed Charges	1.0	4.9	4.1	8.8	8.8	11.4
Source: <i>Annual Estimate of Receipts and Expenditures, Summary</i> . Board of Education, Omaha Public Schools, 1966-67 to 1975-76.						

TABLE 12 CURRENT EXPENDITURE BY CATEGORY, UNITED STATES (Billions of Dollars)						
	1964-65	Percent of Total	1971-72	Percent of Total	1973-74	Percent of Total
Total	\$17.9	100.0	\$39.8	100.0	\$47.5	100.0
Administration	.6	3.3	1.4	3.6	1.7	3.5
Instruction	12.6	71.4	28.1	70.7	32.8	69.0
Attendance, Health and Service	.2	1.0	.4	1.0	.5	1.0
Public Transportation	.7	4.0	1.5	3.8	1.9	3.9
Operation and Maintenance	2.2	12.0	4.3	10.8	5.3	11.1
Fixed Charges	1.5	8.2	4.0	10.1	5.3	11.5
Source: <i>Revenue and Expenditures for Public Elementary and Secondary Education, 1971-72 and 1973-74</i> , National Center for Educational Statistics.						

Conclusions

The intention in this study has been to provide a framework within which voters and public officials can evaluate expenditures for primary and secondary public education. It is obvious that

⁴There are exceptions to these observed trends. For example one area school district (Gretna School District) experienced a 16.6 percent enrollment increase 1971-72 through 1974-75. During the same period of time the number of teachers employed by the district increased by seven (14.9 percent) while total school expenditures increased 44.9 percent. The interested reader is referred to *Land Use Development in Gretna Nebraska: A Cost Analysis*, Center for Applied Urban Research, July 1, 1976.

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